

REMARKS**§ 102 Rejections**

Claims 1-39 stand rejected under 35 USC § 102(a) as being anticipated by Yoshida et al. (EP 0126397).

The Examiner stated that, “Yoshida teaches a naphthalene derivative acrylate. The PSA requirement is inherent in the teachings of Yoshida; most acrylates are known to be PSA’s.”

The Applicant submits that there are many polymers of acrylates that are not pressure sensitive adhesives. Accordingly, there is no reason to conclude that the acrylate naphthalene derivative of Yoshida is inherently a PSA.

In some embodiments, Applicant’s PSA comprises a homopolymer of certain species of the aromatic monomer of original claim 1. Suitable species include for example 6-(4,6-dibromo-2-isopropyl phenoxy)-1-hexyl acrylate. Claim 1 has been amended to recite that R¹ has 6 to 12 carbon atoms.

In other embodiments, Applicant’s PSA comprises the monomer of original claim 1 copolymerized with at least one comonomer. Claim 20 has been amended to recite that the adhesive further comprises at least one acrylic monomer selected from the group consisting of monomeric acrylic or methacrylic acid ester of a non-tertiary alkyl alcohol of about 1 to about 12 carbons.

In yet other embodiments, Applicants PSA comprises the monomer of original claim 1 in combination with plasticizer, tackifier, and mixtures thereof; as reflected by new claim 40.

In conclusion, Yoshida does not teach a pressure sensitive adhesive, nor a composition that is inherently a pressure sensitive adhesive. Each of Applicant's independent claims now recite PSA compositions that are not taught in Yoshida. In view of the above, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the application is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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